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SECURITY INFORMATION
CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY

25X1A

INFORMATION REPORT

REPORT NO. [REDACTED]

CD NO.

COUNTRY Rumania

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DATE DISTR. 5 January 1951

SUBJECT Oil Drilling

NO. OF PAGES 2

25X1C

PLACE
ACQUIRED [REDACTED]**REFERENCE COPY**NO. OF ENCLS.
(LISTED BELOW)DATE OF 25X1A
INFO. [REDACTED]**DO NOT CIRCULATE**SUPPLEMENT TO
REPORT NO. 206

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1. Reportedly, 90% or more of the engineers and workers in the oil fields and core drilling projects are anti-Communist. There is a great shortage of efficient engineers and drillers as so many have been liquidated for having expressed their anti-Communist feelings too freely or for "sabotage," that is to say, not living up to the percentage norms set for work to be accomplished. [REDACTED] core recovery had to be 25X1X 90%, generally considered to be a physical impossibility, in sedimentary formations. This was overcome by substituting old cores for "soft" formations which slipped out of the core barrels.

2. In spite of these efforts to accomplish near perfect norms, [REDACTED] 25X1X
25X1X [REDACTED] coring for oil and soft coal (lignite) had been quite successful
25X1X all over Rumania from the Hungarian border to the Black Sea. [REDACTED]

- a. New oil field discovered at Suta, 18 kilometers south of Targoviste;
- b. Location of core holes revealing two new shallow oil fields not yet developed;
- c. Location of core holes drilled for lignite which showed exploitable beds of good lignite three to four meters thick in several widely scattered areas. Shafts will be dug and thermal power plants built at specified locations to burn the lignite extracted. Factories and towns will be built from scratch around the power plants, thus dispersing industries over the countryside and avoiding long hauls for the coal.
3. Regarding Rumania's oil production, the informant stated that it is well below published figures or percentages. There is a great scarcity of good equipment (particularly American) and no way to get or make spare parts. Equipment received from the USSR is consistently very inferior to American equipment and is not getting any better. Rumanian equipment manufactured by Resita, never very good, is worse than ever. A core rig is reportedly worn out after drilling only two core holes. Continuous

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breakdowns slow down the work, so that of twenty-five core drills under the informant's supervision, ten or fifteen only were actively drilling at any one time, and the balance undergoing repairs or shut down for lack of spare parts.

4. The situation in the oil industry became so bad last spring that Minister of Mines and Petroleum, George Vassiliki, was summarily dismissed. Thereafter, the Russian-controlled Sovrompetrol gained control over all Rumanian oil developments. The Muntenia and Moldavia Rumanian petroleum entities were becoming more and more infiltrated with Soviet engineers in an effort to step up production. Old wells, abandoned as non-commercial, were being put back on production in a desperate effort to increase oil output.
5. Regarding the refineries (most of which are in Ploesti) reconstruction has been completed. The one refinery situated on the western outskirts of Bucharest has been dismantled and moved elsewhere.
6. Considerable effort and some success has been accomplished in developing oil fields in the Buzau area of Moldavia, heretofore only a minor area of Rumanian oil production.

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